

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

19 March 2012

#### Work Programme

#### **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to consider the work programme.

#### **2 Scope of the Committee**

- 2.1 Under the Council's constitution the scope of this Committee is defined as:

*“the Council's corporate organisation and structure, resource allocation, asset management, procurement policy, people strategy, equality and diversity, performance management, communications and access to services.*

*Partnership working, community development, community engagement, community strategies and community safety (the designated Crime and Disorder Committee)”.*

#### **3 Scheduled Committee Dates**

- 3.1 Forthcoming Committee dates for 2012 and 2013 are:

- 11 June 2012, 10:30am
- 10 September 2012, 10:30am
- 26 November 2012, 10:30am
- 21 January 2013, 10:30am
- 22 April 2013, 10:30am

#### **4 Emerging areas of work**

##### **4.1 Post Offices**

- 4.1.1 At the Mid Cycle briefing last month your Group Spokespersons discussed the forthcoming public consultation by Post Office Ltd. on changes to the branch network including the rollout of 'Post Office Local'.

- 4.1.2 Post Office Ltd. has been trialling Post Office Local over the past three years. Post Office Locals are operated in retail premises, with post office services provided over the counter of the shop rather than at a dedicated post office counter. They are able to offer longer opening hours and a quicker service. However they do not provide the more complex and time consuming paper-based transactions; these will be channelled instead through Main post offices with multiple counter positions.

- 4.1.3 The rollout of Post Office Locals will not necessarily lead to a reduction in branches. However it will mean that the services and way in which they are offered will change. Consultations are likely to be on a branch by branch basis.
- 4.1.4 Mark Wright, Head of Network Stakeholder Engagement for Post Office Ltd. will be attending the Committee's meeting in June to appraise the Committee of the future direction of the Post Office and changes to the branch network in the county.

#### 4.2 The County Council's use of social media

- 4.2.1 It is clear that social media is not a passing fad. There are risks associated with the use of social media but, if used appropriately, it can provide a credible and cost-effective communications channel to complement more traditional methods of communicating with the public.
- 4.2.2 Your Chairman has asked for the Committee to receive a report on the County Council's current use of social media, for its meeting in June. This will provide an opportunity to discuss the pros, cons and implications of extending its use.

### **5 Updates**

#### 5.1 Addressing alcohol-related harm

- 5.1.1 At last month's Review Group meeting your Vice-Chairman, together with Care and Independence Committee Scrutiny Committee Members, HAS directorate officers and PCT colleagues met to review a draft needs assessment.
- 5.1.2 The draft needs assessment sets out details of levels and impact of drinking – e.g. in terms of crime & disorder and health. It also contains evidence of effective interventions for prevention and education, early identification and harm minimisation, and treatment and rehabilitation. Service provision has also been mapped across the county for treatment services for adults and young people; and community safety alcohol-related initiatives.
- 5.1.3 The draft needs assessment will inform the preparation of a strategy later this year. The strategy will cover major themes such as Policy, Intervention and Treatment, Education and Prevention, Public Perception and Community Safety concerns. Taking forward the strategy is clearly a partnership agenda involving health and social care, housing, social care, community safety and so on.
- 5.1.4 The strategy is likely to take into account a number of recommendations made by the Department of Health in its advice to commissioners. These include, amongst others, ensuring a more co-ordinated approach to alcohol harm reduction and commissioning of alcohol services; and improving the effectiveness and capacity of specialist treatment.

**6**     **Recommendations**

- 6.1     That Members review the Committee’s work programme, taking into account issues highlighted in this report, the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other relevant developments taking place in the county.

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Date: 8 March 2012

Background documents: None

Annexes: Work Programme Schedule 2012

**Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012**

**In-depth Scrutiny Projects**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	<b>ACTION/BY WHOM</b>	<b>TIMESCALES</b>
One Council	<p>To discuss the One Council Vision/programme and reporting schedules.</p> <p>A Task Group has been appointed and has met on 19 October 2011, 16 November 2011, 8 February and 5 March 2012. It will be meeting next on 29 March.</p>	Rob Polkinghorne	Regular progress updates
Drugs and Alcohol Team	<p>Focus around the strategic assessment on the fitness of the DAAT to deliver against its core objectives. (complete)</p> <p>Review of the balance between drugs awareness, treatment and that for alcohol misuse, focussing especially measures to reduce alcohol related harm.</p>	Task Group with Care and independence Scrutiny Committee	Further dates to be arranged
Equalities	To ensure that the Council's Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process is being used effectively to ensure that equality issues are being considered when drawing up policies or proposals which affect the delivery of services, the carrying out of the Council's functions and the employment practice of the authority.	Neil Irving/Tom Jenkinson	19 March 2012

## Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012

### Overview Reports

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
Executive Member's update	To highlight some of the recent issues considered by the Executive and to identify relevant key issues and priorities for the coming months: schedule alternately.	Cllr Carl Les	11 June 2012
Social Media	To receive an overview of the County Council's current use of social media and to examine the pros, cons and implications of extending its use.	Helen Edwards	11 June 2012
Post Offices	To receive an update on Post Office Ltd's Network Transformation Programme, particularly around the new models of 'Post Office Local' and 'Post Office Main'.	Jonathan Spencer	11 June 2012
Property	Annual Report.	John Moore	11 June 2012
Annual Procurement Report	Annual Report.	John Moore	11 June 2012
Health and Safety	Includes Public Liability – reported annually.	John Moore	11 June 2012
Localism Act	Contributing towards the approach to be taken by the County Council on 'The Community Right to challenge'.	Neil Irving	To be determined (regulations to be produced Spring 2012)
Partnerships Contribution and Resources	Review the annual report on partnership monitoring arrangements and any subsequent decisions taken by the Executive, including the progress on rationalising the number of partnerships across the County Council; and the extent to which the County Council benefits from its involvement in each partnership.	John Moore/ Neil Irving/ Gary Fielding	10 September 2012

## Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012

North Yorkshire Police	Update on the future direction of the Force, including changes in local policing structures.	Jonathan Spencer	10 September 2012
Scrutiny and the Budget Process	Further to the post-implementation review of how budget information was made available to Members in 2010, overview and scrutiny committees are asked in the next 12 months to take into account, the savings proposals to be made in Years 3 and 4 for their service remit. For Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee this will involve savings relating to Finance and Central Services.	John Moore	10 September 2012
Libraries	Overview and update on the library service, including community managed libraries.	Julie Blaisdale	10 September 2012 and 18 March 2013
	Overview of archives, registration and coroners administration.	Julie Blaisdale	To be determined
Enhanced two tier working	Update on joint working in relation to customer access.	Gary Fielding	26 November 2012
	Working together on the localism agenda: planning /New Homes Bonus/working together to promote growth/business rates retention scheme/localisation of Council Tax Benefits.	Gary Fielding	To be determined
Council Plan	Look at the achievements of the past year in relation to the current Council Plan and make suggestions for future improvements to be included in the 2013/16 Council Plan	Neil Irving	26 November 2012
	Comment on the draft 2013/16 Council Plan.		21 January 2013 (provisional)
Area Committees and Community Engagement Forums	Update report to committee on the review of Area Committees.	Josie O'Dowd/Neil Irving	To be determined
Future Performance Monitoring Arrangements	Proposition on the performance management information that the authority will retain or develop in future financial years.	Gary Fielding	To be determined

## Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012

Leader of organisations attend to explain commitment/contribution to Community Safety/Safer Communities Forum	Key feature of Designated Crime and Disorder committee - attendance of strategic leaders at forthcoming meetings.  Police – overview of changes to operational structures.	Jonathan Spencer	21 January 2013  To be determined
Communications Strategy	Update on resident communications and other communications initiatives.	Helen Edwards	To be determined
NYSP Community Safety Agreement	Reviewed annually as part of Crime and Disorder designation.	Neil Irving / Nigel Hutchinson, Chair Safer Communities Forum	21 January 2013

<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	<b>11 June 2012</b> 10:30 am	<b>10 September 2012</b> 10:30 am	<b>26 November 2012</b> 10:30 am	<b>21 January 2013</b> 10.30am	<b>22 April 2013</b> 10.30am
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	<b>11 June 2012</b> 9:30 am	<b>10 September 2012</b> 9:30 am	<b>26 November 2012</b> 9:30 am	<b>21 January 2013</b> 9:30 am	<b>22 April 2013</b> 9:30 am
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	<b>21 May 2012</b> 10:30 am	<b>9 July 2012</b> 10.30am	<b>15 October 2012</b> 10.30am	<b>21 December 2012</b> 10:30am	<b>18 March 2013</b> 10:30am